

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 13979 171729Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /023 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7919
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UNCLAS BRUSSELS 13979

USEEC

STATE FOR INR, EUR/RPE; ICA FOR EU, PGM/R

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC
SUBJECT: SURVEY ON EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS

1. A "EUROBAROMETER" POLL CARRIED OUT IN MAY 1978 IN THE NINE EC MEMBER COUNTRIES INDICATED THAT NEARLY THREE-FOURTHS OF THE EUROPEANS FAVOR DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, NOW SCHEDULED FOR NEXT SPRING, BUT SO FAR ONLY HALF DEFINITELY INTEND TO VOTE. IN READING THESE RESULTS, IT SHOULD BE BORNE IN MIND THAT NO CONCENTRATED CAMPAIGN, EITHER FOR THE ELECTIONS IN GENERAL OR SPECIFIC PARTIES, HAS BEEN STARTED YET, NOR HAVE CANDIDATE LISTS BEEN DRAWN. HOWEVER, THE RESULTS DO INDICATE THE POLITICAL AND EDUCATIONAL TASK BEFORE THE EARTIES AND THE EC INSTITUTIONS DURING THE COMING YEAR IF A TURNOUT APPROACHING THAT OF MOST EUROPEAN NATIONAL ELECTIONS IS TO BE ACHIEVED. FOLLOWING ARE THE QUESTIONS AND SUMMARY RESPONSES.

2. IN PRINCIPLE, ARE YOU FOR OR AGAINST THE ELECTIONS?
71PCT FOR, 18PCT AGAINST. BREAKDOWN OF FAVORABLE RESPONSES,
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FAIRLY PREDICTABLY, IS: LUXEMBOURG, 82PCT; NETHERLANDS, 80PCT;
ITALY, 77PCT; GERMANY, 74PCT; IRELAND, 71PCT; FRANCE, 67PCT;
BRITAIN, 65PCT; BELGIUM, 64PCT; DENMARK, 54PCT.

3. IS IT AN IMPORTANT EVENT? 48PCT FELT IT WAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE; 30PCT OF LITTLE IMPORTANCE; 22PCT DID NOT REPLY.
4. WILL IT GIVE PEOPLE A GREATER SENSE OF BEING

"CITIZENS OF EUROPE?" 46PCT YES, 34PCT NO, 20PCT NO REPLY.

5. DO YOU INTEND TO VOTE? 51PCT DEFINITELY YES, 26PCT PROBABLY, 7PCT PROBABLY NOT, 6PCT DEFINITELY NOT, 3PCT "IT DEPENDS" AND 7PCT NO REPLY. DEFINITELY YES ANSWERS BREAK DOWN: NETHERLANDS, 69PCT; ITALY, 64PCT; FRANCE, 60PCT; LUXEMBOURG, 52PCT; IRELAND, 49PCT; GERMANY, 48PCT; UK, 45PCT; BELGIUM, 36PCT; DENMARK, 34PCT. BELGIUM LEADS THE "DEFINITELY NOT" LIST WITH 19PCT, FOLLOWED BY DENMARK, 10PCT AND UK, 8PCT.

6. WILL SEND FULL SURVEY SOON AS AVAILABLE. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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